

Amendment to the Claims:

The following listing of claims replaces all previous versions and listings of claims:

1-22. (Cancelled)

23. (Previously presented) A method for providing web-based electronic research and presentation functions via a document creation application, comprising:

scanning an active document on a computer device operable for identifying relevant keywords;

searching at least one database for reference materials relating to said relevant keywords;

automatically displaying relevant reference materials on said computer device;

converting said reference materials if said reference materials are in a format different from a format used in creating said active document; and

displaying said reference materials on said computer device;

wherein said active document includes data currently being entered or edited by a user on said computer device; and

wherein said scanning an active document on a computer device operable for identifying relevant keywords is performed by an intelligent search agent, said method further including:

scanning text of said active page for said active document for at least one of:

frequently appearing terms;

frequently appearing phrases; and

specific terms requested by said user;

determining relevance of found terms or phrases resulting from said scanning, said determining relevance of found terms or phrases based upon rules prescribed by said intelligent agent; and

storing relevant results in a temporary storage location operable for performing said searching, the method further comprising deploying, accessing, and executing process software for providing said web-based electronic research and presentation functions via a document creation application, said deploying, accessing, and executing process software implemented through a virtual private network, comprising:

determining if a virtual private network is required;

checking for remote access to said virtual private network when it is required;

if said remote access does not exist, identifying a third party provider to provide secure, encrypted connections between a private network and remote users;

identifying said remote users;

setting up a network access server operable for downloading and installing client software on desktop computers for remote access of said virtual private network;

accessing said process software;

transporting said process software to at least one remote user's desktop computer;

executing said process software on said at least one remote user's desktop computer;

determining if said virtual private network has a site-to-site configuration for providing site-to-site access, and if said virtual private network is not so available, installing equipment required to establish a site-to-site configuration for said virtual private network;

installing large scale encryption into said site-to-site virtual private network; and

accessing said process software through said site-to-site configuration with large scale

encryption.

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Cancelled)

26. (Cancelled)

27. (Cancelled)

28. (Cancelled)

29. (Cancelled)

30. (Cancelled)

31. (Cancelled)

32. (Cancelled)

33. (Cancelled)

34. (Cancelled)

35. (Cancelled)

36. (Cancelled)

37. (Cancelled)

38. (Cancelled)

39. (Previously presented) A storage medium encoded with machine-readable computer program code for providing web-based electronic research and presentation functions via a document creation application, said storage medium including instructions for causing a computer to implement a method, comprising:

scanning an active document on a computer device operable for identifying relevant keywords;

searching at least one database for reference materials relating to said relevant keywords;

automatically displaying relevant reference materials on said computer device;

converting said reference materials if said reference materials are in a format different from a format used in creating said active document; and displaying said reference materials on said computer device; wherein said active document includes data currently being entered or edited by a user on said computer device, and

wherein further, said scanning an active document on a computer device operable for identifying relevant keywords is performed by an intelligent search agent, said method further including:

scanning entire text of said active document for at least one of:

frequently appearing terms;

frequently appearing phrases; and

specific terms requested by said user;

determining relevance of found terms or phrases resulting from said scanning, said determining relevance of found terms or phrases based upon rules prescribed by said intelligent agent; and

storing relevant results in a temporary storage location operable for performing said searching; the method further comprising deploying, accessing, and executing process software for providing said web-based electronic research and presentation functions via a document creation application, said deploying, accessing, and executing process software including:

determining if a virtual private network is required;

checking for remote access to said virtual private network when it is required;

if said remote access does not exist, identifying a third party provider to provide secure, encrypted connections between a private network and remote users;

identifying said remote users;

setting up a network access server for downloading and installing client software on desktop computers for remotely accessing said virtual private network;

accessing said process software;

transporting said process software to at least one remote user's desktop computer;

executing said process software on said at least one remote user's desktop computer;

determining if said virtual private network has a site-to-site configuration for providing site-to-site access, and if said virtual private network is not so available, installing equipment required to establish a site-to-site configuration for said virtual private network;

installing large scale encryption into said site-to-site virtual private network; and

accessing said process software through said site-to-site configuration with large-scale encryption;

wherein said accessing said process software includes at least one of:

dialing into said network access server; and

attaching directly via a modem into said network access server, said modem being selected from the group of modems consisting of telephone dial-up modems, cable modems, DSL modems and wireless modems.

40. (Previously presented) The storage medium of claim 39, further comprising instructions

for causing said computer to implement on demand sharing of process software operable for providing said web-based electronic research and presentation functions via a document creation application, said on demand sharing of process software including:

creating a transaction containing a unique customer identification, requested service type, and service parameters;

sending said transaction to said at least one server;

querying said at least one server about processing capacity associated with said at least one server to help ensure availability of adequate resources for processing of said transaction;

allocating additional processing capacity when additional capacity is needed to process said transaction, said additional processing capacity being selected from the group of additional capacities consisting of central processing unit capacity, processor memory capacity, network bandwidth capacity, and storage capacity; and

recording a plurality of usage measurements selected from the group of usage measurements consisting of network bandwidth, processor memory, storage, and central processing unit cycles.

41. (Original) The storage medium of claim 40, further comprising instructions for causing said computer to implement:

summing said usage measurements;

acquiring at least one multiplicative value associated with said usage measurements and with unit costs; and

recording any such acquired multiplicative value as an on demand charge to a requesting customer.

42. (Original) The storage medium of claim 41, further comprising instructions for

causing said computer to implement at least one of:

posting said on demand charge on a web site if requested by said requesting customer;
and

sending said on demand charge via e-mail to said requesting customer's e-mail address.

43. (Original) The storage medium of claim 42, further comprising instructions for causing said computer to implement:

charging said on demand charge to said requesting customer's account if an account exists and if said requesting customer has selected a charge account payment method.

44. (Cancelled)

45. (Cancelled)